Case 2602

Dytiscus cinereus Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Graphoderus cinereus*; Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed replacement of neotype

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to designate a suitable neotype for *Dytiscus cinereus* Linnaeus, 1758, a common water diving beetle. The previous specimen designated as neotype is actually a specimen of *Graphoderus bilineatus* (De Geer, 1774).

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1. Balfour–Browne (1960, p. 246) argued in favour of the use of the Commission's plenary powers to designate a neotype for *Dytiscus cinereus* Linnaeus, 1758, not taken from the mixture of specimens standing under that name in Linnaeus' collection.

2. The Commission (Opinion 618; BZN **18**: 365–368) accepted the argument in favour of selection of such a neotype. This proposal is not in dispute.

3. Prior to the ruling it was suggested (BZN **18**: 366) that the specimen originally intended for designation as a neotype was unsuitable because its locality could not be defined except by inference. Consequently an alternative specimen was deposited in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History), labelled 'Catfield 9.VIII.1905' and collected by F. Balfour–Browne. Its photograph was published by the Commission (BZN **18**: pl. 5, opposite p. 367) and it was formally designated as neotype.

4. Angus (1976, p. 2) discovered that three species had been previously confused in the British list under the name *cinereus*. These were *bilineatus* De Geer, *zonatus* Hoppe and the true *cinereus* Linnaeus. The neotype of *'cinereus'* was identified as a specimen of *Graphoderus bilineatus* (De Geer, 1774, p. 400) (E. J. van Nieukerken, *pers. comm.*).

5. If the neotype is retained and the Code is strictly applied *Dytiscus bilineatus* De Geer becomes a junior objective synonym of *D. cinereus* Linnaeus, leaving the species currently known as *cinereus* without a name.

6. A specimen of the species currently known as *Graphoderus cinereus* (Linnaeus, 1758) has been deposited in Lund Museum, Sweden. Its identity as that species has been confirmed by R. B. Angus, G. N. Foster and A. N. Nilsson and it bears their identification labels plus the locality data 'S: NÄ, Kvismaren 11/6 1982 Leg. Fågelstn' [Sweden, Province Närke, Lake Kvismaren] and red labels 'Neotypus'and'Neotype ♂ *Dytiscus cinereus* Linnaeus, 1758 des. A. Nilsson 1986'.

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary powers:

(a) to set aside the previous designation of a neotype for *Dytiscus cinereus* Linnaeus, 1758;

(b) to designate the specimen referred to in paragraph 6 above and deposited in Lund Museum as neotype for *Dytiscus cinereus* Linnaeus, 1758.

References

Angus, R. B. 1976. A preliminary note on the British species of *Graphoderus* Sturm, with the additions of *G. bilineatus* De Geer and *G. zonatus* Hoppe to the British List. *Balfour–Browne Club Newsletter*, **1**: 1–3.

Balfour–Browne, J. 1960. Proposed use of the plenary powers to designate a neotype for *Dytiscus cinereus* Linnaeus, 1758, the type species of *Graphoderus* Dejean, 1833 (Class Insecta, Order Coleoptera). *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, **17**: 246–249.

De Geer, C. 1774. *Mémoires pour servir à l'histoire des Insectes*, vol. 4. Stockholm.